

marked. It also prevents the fullness felt in the head by some persons, especially those laboring under cerebral anemia, after doses of iron. It is also useful in nervous conditions, and, with quinine, is excellent in those cases where there is much nervous exhaustion from excessive indulgence in tea or in alcohol; this being tried in a case of nervous excitability and sleeplessness, where there had been much resort to chloral hydrate.

"In forms of excited action of the heart, connected with general nervous excitability or nervous exhaustion, hydrobromic acid is most useful, given with quinine (of which it is a capital solvent) and digitalis, it gives better results than the bromide of potassium and digitalis, and is a favorite combination with me at both my hospitals, and is agreeable as well as effective. In all hysterical conditions connected with ovarian excitement, it seems to have all the properties of bromide of potassium. It is equally useful in the vomiting of pregnancy, and seems to exercise quite as powerful an influence over acts of reflex origin as does the bromide. It is especially adapted for the relief of menorrhagia associated with sexual excitement, and is, even more effective here than the bromides themselves. It is also of use in whooping-cough, and combines conveniently with quinine, forming an effective measure in this troublesome affection. With spirit of chloroform and syrup of squills, it forms a most agreeable and palatable cough mixture of no mean potency. It is also of use in cough of reflex origin. Where there is gastric irritability, it is the most useful of all acids, possessing the usual properties of acids generally and of bromine as well."

The formula of the preparation of bromohydric acid, as given, for making in quantity of two quarts is as follows: Bromide of potassium 5x , vi , grs. xxviii. Dissolve in four pints of water, and add tartaric acid 5xiii , ii , grs. xxxvii. Bitartrate of potash is precipitated and the clear acid liquor is left.

The full dose is a drachm. Dr. Fothergill, usually prescribes half a drachm. He has had no experience with its use in fevers but anticipates on *a priori* ground, good effects. As said above it is recommended in these conditions by Dr. Wade.

JABORANDI.—Drs. O. Kahla and J. Soyka, of Prague, *Centralbl. f. d. Med. Wissensch.*, No. 31, publish the results of experiments as to the action of jaborandi on the heart. The animals experimented upon were dogs and rabbits, the preparations used were infusions of the leaves, injected into the veins. The results were as follows:

(1.) Small doses (5 cgm.) caused an immediate and rather transitory depression of the blood pressure, with a simultaneously appearing, and disappearing quickening of the pulse.

(2.) Larger doses (10 ccm.) have the same, but more lasting effect, but, on the other hand, the slight quickening of the pulse at the commencement, is followed by a slowing simultaneously with the rise of the blood pressure. At the same time a notable increase of the fullness of the pulse is remarked.

(3.) Large doses (20 ccm.) produce a deep and lasting decrease of blood pressure, and an immediately appearing marked slowing of the pulse. The increase in volume of the pulse is very noticeable.

(4.) With the size of the dose, the duration and intensity of the symptoms also increase, still, they generally disappear.

(5.) The cause of the phenomena here observed is probably an irritation of the cardiac terminations of the vagus. This is indicated by

(6.) The appearance of the symptoms unchanged after section of both vagi; and,

(7.) Their complete disappearance after the cardiac terminations of the vagi had been altogether paralyzed with atropia. Further results are promised in a future publication.

The experiments were performed in the laboratory of the Path.-Anat. Institute at Prague.

THE TOXIC PROPERTIES OF GLYCERINE.—The following are the conclusions derived from a series of experiments performed by MM. Du-jardin-Beaumetz, and Audige, and published in the *Gaz. des Hopitaux*, No. 89, August 1:

1. Glycerine, chemically pure, when introduced under the skin of the dog, in doses of 8-10 grammes per kilogramme of weight, causes fatal toxic effects within twenty-four hours.

2. The general toxic symptoms (acute glycerinism) are comparable within certain limits, to those of acute alcoholism.

3. The necroscopic lesions in glycerinism are analogous to those in alcoholism, which leads to the thought that their toxic action is similar.

4. In a therapeutic point of view, therefore, it is not without danger that we introduce into the system large quantities of glycerine.

BROMIDE OF CAMPHOR.—M. Bourneville, at the meeting of the Soc. de Biologie, July 29, (*Gaz. des Hopitaux*) reported the results of a series of experiments undertaken by himself, to ascertain whether bromide of camphor really caused a lowering of the temperature, or whether the alcohol of the solution used in his former experiments was responsible for this action. He experimented on cats and guinea pigs, and also reported some clinical observations.

From these experiments he concluded that bromide of camphor really caused a lowering of the temperature, and that this lowering, under certain circumstances, was considerable.

The following are the titles of a few of the more recent articles in journals on the Therapeutics of the Nervous System and Mind.

ERLER, On the Hypnotic Action of Lactate of Soda, *Centralbl. f. d. med. Wissensch.*, No. 37; FOISSAC, Practical considerations on the Treatment of Neuralgias, *L'Union Med.*, Sept. 5, et seq.; GALLOIS & HARDY, Study of